

MYTHS AND REALITIES FOR POLLINATORS

✗ MYTH

Managing honey bee colonies as a beekeeper will save the bees.



✓ REALITY

There is a honey bee health crisis, but honey bees are **not at risk of extinction as professional beekeepers can replace dead colonies**. Keeping honey bees in areas without enough flowers or proper management can harm all bees, some at risk of extinction.

✗ MYTH

If you plant flowers for pollinators in your yard, you will get stung.



✓ REALITY

When visiting flowers, bees are not defensive. When bees are visiting flowers they are focused on collecting nectar and pollen and usually ignore people. Most bees are extremely gentle even at their nests.

✗ MYTH

Swelling from an insect sting indicates an allergic reaction.



✓ REALITY

Swelling is a normal reaction to a bee sting. While allergic reactions are serious, only 3% of people are truly allergic to stinging insects. We suggest visiting a health professional to diagnose any venom allergies.

✗ MYTH

All wasps are mean.



✓ REALITY

Most wasps are harmless and beneficial. Wasps are an incredibly diverse group of insects and are closely related to bees. A few species can be bothersome, but many wasps control populations of insect pests and can be important pollinators. #wasplove

✗ MYTH

Agriculture is bad for bees.



✓ REALITY

Farmers can have positive impacts on pollinators with pollinator-friendly agriculture. Pesticide exposure and lack of flowers and wild areas on farms harm pollinators, but with our support, farmers can create large areas of pesticide-free pollinator habitat.